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SOURCE

Medycyna Weterynaryjna.

VETERINARY SERVICE IN POLAND, 1948

 \sqrt{c} comment: This report gives basic information on the organization and development of the Polish veterinary service.

ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF VETERINARY SERVICE -- Medycyna Weterynaryjna,

The organization and administration of the veterinary service in Poland is within the framework of the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reform. The Veterinary Department of the ministry is in charge of the veterinary service. It is headed by a director and comprises four divisions: I. Veterinary Administration, II. Division for Combating Infectious Diseases in Animals, III. Veterinary Hydrical Services.

The Inspector General of the Veterinary Department has general supervision over the professional activities of powlat offices and wojewodztwo boards and over the State Veterinary Institute.

The Division of Veterinary Administration handles the organization of the veterinary service, the budget, matters concerning veterinary autonomy, the vetersemination of veterinary literature, reporting and statistics, formulation of the guiding principles for the State Veterinary Institute in Pulawy, and supervision of its professional activities.

The Division for Combating Infectious Diseases in Animals handles all pertinent matters as defined by the law on combating infectious diseases in animals, veterinary protection of borders, and supervision of the production of veterinary biologicals.

The Division of Veterinary Hygiene supervises the inspection of slaughter animals and meat, is in charge of veterinary conventions, animal statistics and butchering, domestic and export trade in livestock and intermediate products of animal origin, supervises sanitation and veterinary matters in processing plants.

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The Division of Therapy organizes and supervises the practice of animal therapy, is in charge of animal hygiene, production of medicines, methods for combating epidemic diseases not covered by law, combating parasitic diseases, veterinary protection in breeding animals, insurance, and horseshoeing.

Each wojewodztwo board has an agricultural branch divided into divisions, including the wojewodztwo veterinary division. The wojewodztwo veterinary division headed by the chief consists of three sections: Section for Combating Infectious Diseases in Animals, Section for Veterinary Hygiene, and Section for Veterinary Therapy. The subsection of Veterinary Administration is personally headed by the chief of the division.

The powiat veterinary offices are headed by a powiat veterinarian. The veterinary office is divided into two basic branches: the first, under the powiat veterinarian, comprises the division for combating and preventing infectious diseases in animals and also makes periodic checks of slaughter animals and meat inspections, distribution of animals, distribution and processing of intermediate and end products of animal origin, slaughterhouses, meat markets, cattle drives, stockyards, dairies and cow barns, waste processing enterprises, skinning establishments, and animal burial grounds, and exercises general supervision over the veccinary and auxiliary service in the powiat.

The second branch, under the veterinarian in charge of therapy, includes combating infectious and parasitic diseases not covered by law, and diseases of poultry and fur-bearing animals. The branch is also in charge of organizing, equipping, and supervising the poviat hospital and regional clinic, and training and supervising horseshoers. It takes an interest in breeding licenses and supervises the castrating of unlicensed animals, and disseminates veterinary information. The ministry plans to station branch veterinarians in charge of therapy in those powiats which have a state hospital.

The powiat is divided into veterinary regions each consisting of two or three villages.

Veterinarians are also employed in scientific research institutes, in social, agricultural, and breeding organizations, and a very small number in private practice.

As of June 1948, Poland had 1,532 veterinarians. In the auxiliary veterinary service there were 212 fumigators, 199 veterinary assistants, 846 slaughter animal and meat inspectors, 231 trichinosis technicians, and 243 unskilled auxiliary personnel. The distribution of veterinarians is most inadequate in the eastern wojewodztwos, and in the wojewodztwos of the recovered territories, especially in Szczecin Wojewodztwo.

It is the task of the Veterinary Department to plan the placement of veterinary personnel in Poland.

The shortage of veterinarians will be gradually reduced as the trainees in the Veterinary Faculties of the Lublin, Warsaw, and Wroclaw Universities complete their training.

Combating infectious diseases in animals is primarily the responsibility of the state veterinary service. However, the law provides that state veterinarians are to be assisted by all veterinarians in carrying out the program.

To take care of this work properly, the powiat veterinarian must spend at least 20 days in the field. The shortage of motorized transportation is a great drawback.

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The achievements of the state veterinary service in 1945-1948 include the control of diseases which were most prevalent in the postwar periods, especially the following: hoof and mouth disease, exanthema coiale paralyticum (zaraza stadnicza), scabies in horses, hog plague (pestis suum), chicken plague (pestis avium), and others. In 1948, the malleinizing of horses is to be completed in six wojewodztwos and the remaining wojewodztwos in 1940 which will completely eliminate glanders in horses. From March to 31 May 1948, about 2,400,000 hogs were inoculated against erysipelas by a new method, a nonvirulent erysipelas culture. Mass inoculation of dogs against rabies is now in progress.

Production of the State Veterinary Institute in Pulawy covered the total requirements of the country and facilitated the control of infectious diseases.

One of the most important tasks of the Branch of Veterirary Hygiene is to protect the health of the population by supervising the slaughter of animals and the domestic and foreign trade in animal products.

The aim of the state is to place both inspection and supervision in the hands of veterinarians. Because of the shortage of veterinarians, this function is now (numbering 60 in Category 1, 146 in Category 2, and 483 in Category 3) official inspection is carried out by veterinarians. At present, the government employs well.

To prevent the sale of tainted meat, there is meat inspection in meat sheds, meat markets, meat-processing plants, etc. In 1947, veterinary supervision of slaughter in Poland in slaughterhouses and inspection circuits covered 7,700 horses, 66,451 bulls, 11,155 oxen, 191,531 cows, 122,849 heifers over 3 months, 324,722 calves, 2,777,948 hogs, and 62,382 goats.

The government inspectors of slaughter animals and meat must also assist in combating illegal slaughter. Besides the specific tasks mentioned above, the Division of Veterinary Hygiene is in charge of supervising the sale turnover of livestock to protect the country against infectious diseases it animals and to prevent the bringing in of these diseases from foreign countries. This inspection is made at railroad stations, ports, markets, etc.

The Division of Veterinary Hygiene also makes periodic inspections of slaughter-houses, markets, and waste-processing plants. It trains government inspectors, organizes training courses for veterinarians in the supervision of slaughter-houses. For the processing of carcasses and scrap, there are 75 active plants in various localities.

The Therapy Branch has recently been reorganized to meet the new requirements of agriculture. Before 1939, veterinary medicine was in the hands of private practitioners or local governments, and the number of local hospitals and veterinary try of Agriculture and Land Reform is in charge of organization and development of veterinary hospitals. In 1945-1948, 109 powiat state hospitals, 36 regional hospitals, and 23 clinics were activated, in addition to the 29 local veterinary inospitals, eight clinics, two hospitals of the Zwiazek Samopomocy Chlopskiej (Union (Association for the Protection of Animals). The hospitals handle about 10,000 animals a month.

The state hospitals are adequately supplied with instruments and medicines. The Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reform is planning to have one state hospital and one regional clinic in every powlat.

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It is expected that in 1948, 32 new state hospitals will be opened, 70 percent of which will be in the recovered territories. A number of model blacksmith shops and schools for horseshoers are also planned. To prevent sterility in cows and to protect livestock against tuberculosis and other diseases, the ministry has prepared a number of instructions and plans a program this year to combat these diseases.

MASS INOCULATIONS AGAINST SWINE ERYSIPELAS -- Medycyna Weterynaryjna, Vol IV, Nov 48

In 1948, mass inoculation of pigs with Staub's vaccine against swine erysipelas was begun in Poland. The table below gives the result of the inoculations through 1 September 1948:

•	Incidence of Disease In Inoculated Pigs				No of Dead			
Wojewodztwo	No of Piga Inoculated	Within 14 Days	After 14 Days	Percent	Up to l' Days	After 14 Days	Percent	
Bialystok Gdansk Kielce Krakow Lublin Lodz Olsztyn Pomorze Poznan Rzeszow Szczecin Slask -	95,009 75,018 94,987 77,838 153,443 193,070 40,548 178,559 356,981 34,731 105,663	248 87 488 511 1057 824 88 537 1.744 80 219	1513 438 483 2000 1749 484 561 1629 5305 540 479	1.74 .69 1.00 3.00 1.10 .60 1.50 1.20 1.70	70 51 230 238 439 278 60 259 578 25 68	171 166 242 1076 583 174 162 558 1201 181	.20 .28 .40 1.60 .60 .20 .50 .40 .50	
Dabrowa Warsaw Wroclaw	131,764 249,463 114,364	432 885 54և	1506 2433 1522	1.40 1.30 1.80	157 371 170	419 679 74	.40 .40 .20	
	1,901,438	7,744	20,642	1.40	2994	5847	.40	

DISTRIBUTION OF VETERINARIANS -- Medycyna Weterynaryjna, Vol IV, Apr 48

Statistics for 1947 show that for the 2,760,000 farms on Polana's total land area of 310,112 square kilometers there were 1,730,000 horses, 3,910,000 head of cattle, 1,500,000 head of sheep and goats, and over 3 million pigs.

Of the 1,400 veterinarians in Poland, about 1,000 work as local veterinarians. This shows that one veterinarian serves 2,760 farms and looks after 1,730 horses, 3,910 head of cattle, 1,500 sheep and goats, and over 3,000 pigs. Thus, over 10,000 animals over an area of over 300 square kilometers are served by one veterinarian.

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